From: Association of Deputy District Attorneys
To: Kutches, Brandon (SHF)
Subject: Monday Morning Memo for April 8, 2019
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Courts & Rulings

Verdict affirmed in favor of city in action alleging false arrest of videographer
A freelance videographer who was taken into custody after he continued to walk toward City Hall as persons encamped on the grounds as part of Occupy Los Angeles were being dispersed, and became combative with police, yesterday lost his bid for reversal of a judgment in favor of the City of Los Angeles and several of its officers in his action for false arrest and a civil rights violation.
Metropolitan News-Enterprise

Man asked incriminating questions by police was not under detention
A pedestrian who changed direction when he spotted a patrol car, stuck something in his pocket, and darted onto the driveway of an apartment complex, was not "detained" when officers questioned him as to what he had in his pocket and he admitted possessing a "meth pipe," the Court of Appeal for this district has held, affirming the denial of his supression motion.
Metropolitan News-Enterprise

Ninth Circuit upholds 27-year sentence for Russian hacker
A Ninth Circuit panel upheld the 27-year prison sentence of a Russian computer hacker who was extradited to the United States while on vacation with his family in the Maldives to face charges he stole credit card numbers and millions of dollars. Roman Seleznev claimed the U.S. government kidnapped him when he was finally arrested several years after some of his most lucrative heists.
Courthouse News Service

C.A. orders publication of portion of opinion lifting prior restraint
The Court of Appeal for this district has decided to publish that portion of its Feb. 26 opinion in which it holds that a domestic violence restraining order against a Los Angeles attorney is an unconstitutional prior restraint in the extent that it forbids him from posting "anything" on Facebook about the case in which he is being sued for divorce.
Metropolitan News-Enterprise

Lawyer fingerprinting in this state turns up over 2,200 convictions unknown to bar
A California court rule requiring lawyers to be fingerprinted has turned up more than 6,000 criminal history reports, including more than 2,200 convictions previously unknown to the state bar. The 2,200 unknown convictions include 20 unreported felonies, Above the Law reports. The number of convictions likely will increase as more lawyers get fingerprinted ahead of an April 30 deadline.
ABA Journal

Judge Anderson barred from third sentencing of defendant

The Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals yesterday, for a second time, remanded a case for resentencing, declaring that the matter must be heard by a judge of the District Court for the Central District of California other than Percy Anderson who, the three-judge panel said, failed to adhere to the appeals court's 2016 opinion in the case.
Metropolitan News-Enterprise

Justices rule against Missouri inmate with rare health issue
Missouri can execute an inmate who argued his rare medical condition will result in severe pain if he is put to death by lethal injection, the Supreme Court ruled Monday. The justices split along ideological lines in ruling 5-4 against inmate Russell Bucklew, who is on death row for a 1996 murder. The court's five conservative justices rejected Bucklew's argument that subjecting him to lethal injection would violate the Constitution's ban on cruel and unusual punishment.
Kansas City Star

Judge dismisses suit based on San Bernardino terrorist attack
A federal judge in Santa Ana Monday dismissed a lawsuit filed by relatives of three of the victims killed in the 2015 terrorist attack in San Bernardino, saying the tort claim of negligence is outweighed by the government's sovereign immunity. Relatives of shooting victims Nicholas Thalasinos, Sierra Clayborn and Tin Nguyen accused the government of negligence for failing to investigate Syed Rizwan Farook and Tashfeen Malik, the husband-and-wife jihadis who killed 14 people and wounded two dozen others during a Christmas party at the Inland Regional Center on Dec. 2, 2015.
My News LA

Prop. 63: Federal judge declares California's ban on high-capacity gun magazines unconstitutional
A federal judge on Friday declared unconstitutional a key provision of California's Proposition 63 that banned possession of high-capacity gun magazines often used in mass shootings, ensuring that the voter-approved prohibition will remain tied up in court for some time to come. San Diego-based U.S. District Judge Roger Benitez wrote in his 86-page decision, upholding a lawsuit against the proposed ban of magazines holding more than 10 rounds, that such a statute "hits at the center of the Second Amendment and its burden is severe."
San Francisco Chronicle

Public has access to pre-2019 police personnel files
Amendments to a statute which increases public access to personnel files of peace officers may permissibly be applied to records that were in existence prior to the Jan. 1 effective date of the legislation, the First District Court of Appeal has held. Div. Four's decision comes in a "By the Court" order denying petitions for writs of supersedeas filed by the Walnut Creek Police Officers' Association and others in five consolidated

matters.
Metropolitan News-Enterprise

The far-reach of the 9th Circuit's decision to stand firm on landmark homeless case
If you're a homeless person with nowhere to go but a city sidewalk, park or other public space, can authorities force you off the street? This week, federal judges again said: "No." That answer - the same given by three judges on the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals back in September - came after yet another review of a case that's been making its way through the courts for a decade.
LAist

Challenge to barring of 2018 ballot designation is moot
The Fourth District Court of Appeal has dismissed as moot a challenge by an unsuccessful candidate in 2018 for the post of district attorney of Orange County to the denial of her use of the ballot designation, "Civil Rights Attorney." Div. Three on Friday, in an unpublished opinion by Justice Raymond J. Ikola, spurned erstwhile candidate Lenore L. Albert's appeal of orders by Orange Superior Court Judge Craig L. Griffin, finding no justification for addressing the merits notwithstanding mootness.
Metropolitan News-Enterprise

Jury says Pomona police officer did not obstruct justice, mistrial declared on charges of lying to FBI
A federal jury Wednesday found the Pomona police officer who investigated the violent arrest of a teenage boy at the Los Angeles County Fair in 2015 not guilty of deterring the boy and his mother from coming forward during the investigation - but jurors did not reach unanimous verdicts on two charges of lying to the FBI.
San Gabriel Valley Tribune

Prosecutions / Prosecutors

L.A., San Joaquin County prosecutors to clear thousands of pot convictions
Los Angeles and San Joaquin county prosecutors announced a plan Monday to automatically clear more than 50,000 marijuana-related convictions eligible for reconsideration in light of the state's legalization of pot under Proposition 64. District attorneys from both counties said they will partner with nonprofit Code for America, which has developed a computerized system known as Clear My Record that quickly identify cannabis convictions eligible to be cleared.
My News LA

Orange County DA charges 4 women in connection with multistate prostitution ring
Authorities say they have charged four women with running a prostitution network in California, Nevada and Utah that netted tens of

thousands of dollars a month. Orange County District Attorney Todd Spitzer said Wednesday the women had a website that appeared to be a legitimate service but was not. The four are charged with pimping and pandering and the two alleged ringleaders are also charged with conspiracy.
KTLA

Man ordered to stand trial for alleged hate crime attack near synagogue
A Seattle resident who allegedly tried to run over two men last November near a synagogue in a Jewish neighborhood in the Wilshire area while yelling anti-Semitic remarks was ordered Wednesday to stand trial. Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Deborah S. Brazil found sufficient evidence to require Mohamed Abdi Mohamed, 33, to stand trial on two counts each of attempted murder and assault with a deadly weapon - a vehicle - along with a hate crime allegation.
City News Service

Deputy pleads guilty to leaving gun in 8-year-old son's backpack, sentenced to community service
A Los Angeles County sheriff's deputy who left a gun in his 8-year-old son's backpack a year ago pleaded guilty Wednesday to an infraction and was immediately sentenced to 80 hours of community service. Manuel Murillo, 37, was off-duty when he put the loaded service weapon in his son's backpack last April 11 by mistake, then dropped off the child with a caretaker, according to his attorney, Michael D. Schwartz.
City News Service

District Attorney's Office to honor, empower victims at 2019 Victims' Rights March and Rally
The Orange County District Attorney's Office invites members of the community to the Victims' Rights March on April 8, 2019. The event, held as part of National Crime Victims' Rights Week, is an opportunity to honor victims and listen to survivors tell their stories of how they are moving forward and reshaping their lives - and how they continue to fight for victims' rights. This year's theme is "Victims Fighting for Justice."
Orange County Breeze

The bizarre story of the L.A. dad who exposed the college admissions scandal
Morrie Tobin was in Boston to cut the deal of his life. It was early April last year. A few weeks before, federal agents had descended on the multimillion-dollar home Tobin shares with his wife and some of their six children in Hancock Park, a moneyed Los Angeles enclave. Warrant in hand, the agents searched the French chateau-style mansion for financial records and other evidence to nail Tobin, the suspected ringleader of a stock scam that defrauded investors of millions of dollars.

Los Angeles Times

Criminal Justice / Public Safety

Why police academies are letting recruits down (and how to fix it)
Today's entry-level police officer must be better prepared emotionally, physically and technically to meet the herculean challenges of modern-day law enforcement and the often-unrealistic performance expectations we demand from officers. While these challenges and demands are drastically different from previous decades, training delivery methods in academies have remained relatively stagnant.
PoliceOne

Tesla vandal arrested after footage of incident was captured on Sentry Mode
Tesla's new Sentry Mode is quickly proving useful as a woman who vandalized a Tesla vehicle was arrested after the footage of the incident was captured through Sentry Mode and reported to the police by the owner. Over the last year, we reported an uptick in break-ins involving Tesla vehicles. The automaker reacted by releasing its own dashcam feature using the Autopilot cameras around its vehicles.
Electrek

OC sheriff releases statistics on ICE detainees
Orange County sheriff's officials Wednesday released department statistics showing that in 2018, the first year of the so-called Sanctuary State law, the agency handed off 717 of the county jail's inmates to federal immigration authorities. The law prevents the sheriff's department from turning over inmates to ICE within the jail, but deputies have gotten around that by posting the release date of inmates on the jail website, which gives the federal agency a chance to track when an ICE detainee is going to be released and pick them up as they walk out of jail.
City News Service

Policy & Legal Issues

Why California's proposed law on deadly police force isn't as tough as it seems
In the aftermath of several controversial police shootings in California, activists and victims' families have hoped their anguish would lead to action. They have protested, pleaded and lobbied for a law that would clear long-standing hurdles to criminal prosecution in some cases. But the focus of their hopes - a bill facing its first public hearing next week - may come up short.
Los Angeles Times

The troubling limits of the 'great crime decline'

New York University sociologist Patrick Sharkey opened his revelatory 2018 book Uneasy Peace: The Great Crime Decline, the Renewal of City Life, and the Next War on Violence by calling the dramatic fall in violence in American cities since the early 1990s a "fundamental change in the nature of U.S. urban life," one that "no one predicted and that many people still do not believe."
Citylab

Legalized marijuana linked to a sharp rise in car crashes
There has been an increase by up to 6 percent in the number of highway crashes in four of the states where the recreational use of marijuana has been legalized, according to a pair of new studies. The new reports do not prove there's a direct risk caused by the use of marijuana among motorists, but they raise caution flags, especially since there is no easy way to test drivers to be sure if they are, in fact, under the influence of THC, the active ingredient in marijuana, said David Harkey, president of the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety's Highway Loss Data Institute.
NBC News

After recreational weed has been legal for a year, cops are still figuring out DUIs
A year after recreational marijuana became legal, cops and prosecutors are still dealing with the question: what is considered "legally impaired" when it comes to pot? Point .08 is the limit for drunken driving but testing for marijuana and other drugs that could impair a driver is not as clear cut. Specially trained drug recognition, or DRE officers like Brian Duncan look for clues and things that affect the body differently than alcohol.
NBC4 Los Angeles

Sacramento's 'community of victims' fight law shortening sentences for young killers
They are a community now, sharing a bond known only by those whose lives have been ravaged by violent crime. Nicole Clavo lost a young son, killed by a gunshot three years ago as he sat at a north Sacramento intersection in a car full of his high school football teammates. The alleged gunman was 15. Victoria Hurd's mother and her mother's husband were attacked as they slept in 2013, murdered, then mutilated in the bedroom of their Davis condominium.
Sacramento Bee

The criminal justice system's algorithms need transparency
The use of risk assessment algorithms in our nation's criminal justice system is expanding. The notion of this sounds innocent enough and maybe even pretty cool - a technologically advanced method solving the inequality in how people are handled after an arrest. Thanks to continuing advancements, building these models is now easier than ever

before.
Law360

U.S. Supreme Court affirms constitutionality of bail, but CA still in legal bail limbo
For four years activist Plaintiffs lawyers have been suing smaller cities arguing that the existing bail system is unconstitutional because it violates the principle of equal protection under the law. In San Francisco, such a lawsuit claims, "Wealthy arrestees purchase their freedom by paying an arbitrary amount set by the bail schedule. Poor arrestees must languish behind bars until the resolution of their case, simply because they cannot afford to pay a pre-determined sum of money."
California Globe

Date rape isn't a violent crime in California. Seriously
Under current California law, more than 20 clearly violent crimes aren't classified as violent, including rape of an unconscious person, trafficking a child for prostitution, assault with a deadly weapon and domestic violence. You can pimp a child for sex, beat a spouse or rape a young woman who passes out at a frat party, and it's not considered a violent offense under state law, and that's offensive.
CALmatters

LA's black market pot shops could disappear from Weedmaps if legal sellers get their way
More than a year after recreational marijuana sales became legal in California, cannabis businesses that are following state rules are struggling to compete with a black market that's still thriving. Now, legal shop owners are backing a new state assembly bill that would stop websites from hosting ads for unlicensed weed businesses.
LAist

Death Penalty

Assemblyman Lackey proposes bill to protect victims over death row killers
Assemblyman Tom Lackey (R-Palmdale) is livid that Gov. Gavin Newsom prioritized death row killers in his recent reprieve on the 737 killers on death row, over the actual victims and families of victims. "The people on death row are not the victims," Lackey said in an interview. "They are not who the state should be working to protect. They have abused, they have raped, they have kidnapped, they have tortured, and some of them have even murdered their own children."
California Globe

For Gavin Newsom, and most Democrats, rule of law is an adjustable state of mind
A few months ago, Gavin Newsom, during his campaign for governor of

California, declared that the death penalty was the law of the land. He said he would respect the clearly expressed will of California voters and would not obstruct the enforcement of the death penalty. Now, though, the election is over, Newsom is the governor of our most populous state and he reserves the right to have a change of heart.
Olean Times Herald

Deputy District Attorneys release the 'Death Penalty Exhausted Appeals'
The Association of Deputy District Attorneys just released their first set of blogs focusing on California's murderers on death row. Recently, Gov. Gavin Newsom signed a order to reprieve all 737 prisoners on death row. His plan is to suspend all executions as long as he is governor... ADDA's main goal is to make sure that doesn't happen. Michele Hanisee is the President of the Association of Los Angeles Deputy District Attorneys, and represents nearly 1,000 Deputy District Attorneys who work for the County of Los Angeles.
KFI AM 640

Could Gov. Gavin Newsom's death penalty moratorium mean life for state GOP in 2020?
California Republicans hope voters will dish out some punishment to Democrats next year, following Gov. Gavin Newsom's reprieve for the state's death-row inmates. Leaders of the state GOP believe the public is solidly in favor of the death penalty and that their party can win back some power by turning Newsom's death penalty moratorium into an election-year attack on vulnerable Democratic incumbents.
Riverside Press-Enterprise

Californians voted twice in 2016 in favor of the death penalty. That matters more than poll results
To the editor: A Public Policy Institute of California poll finds that people would rather have life without parole than the death penalty imposed as the punishment for first-degree murder. The "polls" also predicted that Hilary Clinton would be president - how did that work out? Here's an idea: Let's actually put the question to the voters.
Letters/Los Angeles Times

Crime

Suspect in Nipsey Hussle murder being held on $7 million bail
The man arrested as a suspect in the slaying of rapper Nipsey Hussle is in custody Wednesday in lieu of $7 million bail amid reports that he has a violent criminal history. Eric Holder, 29, was arrested around 1 p.m. Tuesday in the 9000 block of Artesia Boulevard in Bellflower by Los Angeles County sheriff's deputies after a witness called authorities to report seeing a person believed to be Holder.
My News LA

Bus driver who crashed into parked cars arrested on suspicion of DUI

An on-duty Long Beach bus driver was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol when he hit several parked cars with a city bus early Monday morning, police said. Long Beach police officers responded to a call of a traffic collision around midnight near the intersection of Pacific Avenue and Anaheim Street, authorities said.
Los Angeles Times

17-year-old facing possible murder charges in fatal crash in Woodland Hills

A 17-year-old boy was arrested and may face murder charges following a crash that left one person dead and several people injured on Friday night in Woodland Hills, according to the Los Angeles Police Department. The boy, who has not been identified, is suspected of driving a 2019 Mercedes-Benz recklessly for several blocks before running a red light and crashing into a Toyota Tacoma at the intersection of Winnetka Ave. and Ventura Blvd., police say.
NBC4

After Rafael Reyna viciously attacked in Dodger Stadium parking lot, fans call for better security

Police are still looking for a man who attacked 45-year-old Rafael Reyna in the Dodger Stadium parking lot, leaving him on life support with a fractured skull. The suspect reportedly confronted Reyna as he walked to his car after Friday night's extra innings game against the Arizona Diamondbacks. Reyna was on the phone with his wife, Christel, when the attack happened.
CBS LA

91-year-old Tarzana woman riding again after community replaces stolen tricycle

A 91-year-old Tarzana woman refuses to let a thief slow her down, and now she's thanking the people who replaced her stolen tricycle. Someone stole Louise Bianco's tricycle after she rode it to a fitness class at Pierce College. This wasn't just any scooter, it helped her get around. Louise had ridden 25,000 miles on it! "I do it for exercise, and I do it because it's beautiful," Bianco said.
ABC7

California man on parole for child sex crimes accused of sexually assaulting girl on playground

A registered sex offender has been arrested after being accused of sexually assaulting a female student at an elementary school playground in Torrance, police announced Monday. The girl told one of her parents she had been sexually assaulted on the playground of Lincoln Elementary School last Thursday morning, according to a Torrance Police Department news release.

KPLR

Police use bolt cutters to reach trapped Hollywood burglar
Police had to use bolt cutters to reach a burglary suspect who got stuck while trying to escape officers in a Hollywood shopping center early Tuesday morning. According to Los Angeles police, at around 1 a.m., officers responded to a burglary call at a shopping center in the 900 block of Western Avenue, near Santa Monica Boulevard, to find the suspect on the roof of a business.
CBS LA

Los Angeles County Sheriff

L.A. County Sheriff Alex Villanueva reinstates four more fired deputies
Los Angeles County Sheriff Alex Villanueva has reinstated at least six deputies who were previously discharged, according to county documents obtained by The Times. Villanueva has previously defended his department's decisions to rehire two deputies fired for misconduct - one accused of assaulting and harassing a woman and lying about it, the other for using unreasonable force during an arrest. But The Times found four additional rehires, a revelation that is likely to stoke more scrutiny from county supervisors and department watchdogs who have called on the sheriff to stop the practice.
Los Angeles Times

Deputy fired for using unreasonable force during arrest has been reinstated
A Los Angeles County sheriff's deputy who was fired in 2018 for using unreasonable force while arresting a man in Lancaster in 2016 has been reinstated, it was reported Wednesday. This is the second deputy who was fired prior to Sheriff Alex Villanueva's election to return to duty since the new sheriff took office. Michael Courtial was fired last June but has since been reinstated and assigned to the sheriff's Palmdale station, the Los Angeles Times reported.
City News Service

Police interview of Deputy Caren Mandoyan's ex-girlfriend
Accusations of domestic violence upended the career of Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Deputy Caren Carl Mandoyan and put newly elected Sheriff Alex Villanueva on a collision course with the L.A. County Board of Supervisors. Mandoyan's ex-girlfriend, a fellow deputy, filed a temporary restraining order against him in 2015, dissolved it two weeks later, resigned from the department in 2017 and now declines to comment on the matter.
ABC7

L.A. County Sheriff's Deputy whose rehiring sparked controversy speaks about domestic abuse claims that got him fired

Though a Los Angeles County appeals board upheld then-Sheriff Jim McDonnell's decision to fire Deputy Caren Carl Mandoyan in 2016 after he was accused of stalking and domestic abuse, according to the Los Angeles Times, Mandoyan spoke out Friday against the claims as his rehiring last December by newly instated Sheriff Alex Villanueva is putting renewed focus on the case - including new allegations that Mandoyan belongs to a violent clique within the department known as the Reapers.
KTLA

De-coding the case files of rehired LA Sheriff's Deputy Carl Mandoyan: Part 1 - Command & control
The past two weeks have been active ones in the unendingly controversial case of Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputy Caren Carl Mandoyan, the deputy fired by the LASD in 2016 under former Sheriff Jim McDonnell, who was was rehired early this year by Sheriff Alex Villanueva. Much of the controversy has pertained to the fact that Mandoyan was fired for alleged domestic abuse, along with reported stalking and bullying behavior against his ex-girlfriend, who was also a deputy at the time.
Witness LA

Los Angeles County

LA approves permanent street memorial signs at sites of deadly bicycle crashes around city
Fatal bicycle crashes on L.A. streets have long been marked by so-called 'ghost bikes', bicycles painted white in memory of a lost life, flanked by flowers and other tokens to form ad-hoc public memorials. They serve as a haunting reminder of the vulnerability of cyclists on city streets, but tend to disappear in time.
Los Angeles Daily News

L.A. County crews who allegedly used Darknet to traffic narcotics face federal criminal conspiracy charges
Members of two alleged Los Angeles County crime rings have been charged in separate federal criminal cases alleging they conspired to use the Darknet to illicitly and secretly sell methamphetamine and other illegal narcotics nationwide, including one shipment of heroin in a stuffed animal that led to the fatal overdose of a customer in Tennessee.
FBI

With business groups allied against it, L.A. parcel tax faces big hurdle
Three Los Angeles area business associations have signed the official ballot argument opposing L.A. Unified's sizable 12-year parcel tax on the June 4 ballot - compounding the district's challenge of getting a two-thirds majority required to pass it. The opponents include the influential

Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce. Parcel tax backers had hoped that business community leaders would take no position, if they couldn't support a parcel tax.
EdSource

LA's City Council District 12 seat is up for grabs. Here are the 15 people vying to fill it
When Mitch Englander resigned his L.A. City Council seat last October, District 12 - which includes Chatsworth, North Hills, Northridge, Granada Hills, Porter Ranch, Reseda, Sherwood Forest and West Hills - was left with temporary representation (Greig Smith, his former chief of staff, stepped into the role). Englander was the lone Republican on the 15-member council.
LAist

Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn will seek re-election in 2020
Hews Media Group-Los Cerritos Community News has exclusively learned that Los Angeles County 4th District and Chair of the Board of Supervisors Janice Hahn will seek reelection in 2020. Hahn told HMG-LCCN publisher Brian Hews during a wide ranging interview this morning. "This is much more fulfilling than my Congressional position. Washington was, and still is, in gridlock. I can get things done here and I've accomplished a lot, but I want to accomplish much more."
Hews Media Group

Convictions / Sentences / Parole

Assault with a deadly weapon inmate walks away from conservation camp in Antelope Valley
An inmate in custody for assault with a deadly weapon walked away from a conservation camp in the Antelope Valley early Tuesday. Jon Nicholas, 37, was at Fenner Canyon Conservation Camp in Valyermo, but at 4:20 a.m., staff discovered that he was missing. Officers immediately began searching the camp, but he was not found.
KTLA

Man sentenced to 40 years for molesting relative under 8 years old for years
A 58-year-old man who repeatedly sexually assaulted a young relative in Temecula was sentenced Wednesday to 40 years to life in state prison. Jose Benito Fabian was convicted in December of four counts of lewd acts on a child under 10 years old. Riverside County Superior Court Judge John Molloy imposed the sentence required by law for the offenses.
NBC4

Consumer News

Walmart misled customers with oversized containers, California prosecutors say. Now it'll pay
Walmart misled customers by packaging some of its health and beauty products in oversized containers, prosecutors say, and now the company will pay $495,000 in costs and penalties. The Fresno County District Attorney's Office announced in a news release Wednesday that its office, along with five other California district attorney's offices, reached a settlement with Walmart Inc. in a civil enforcement action.
Fresno Bee

Amazon corporate counsel says counterfeits will remain
When you make a claim, you better make sure it's true and that you're actually doing what you claim you're doing. When you get caught in a lie or exaggeration, your credibility is destroyed. That's happened to Amazon, who is facing an avalanche of counterfeit and fraudulent product sales, scams, and fake reviews, along with allegations of data leaks and employee bribes.
The Counterfeit Report

Trump puts Amazon, Alibaba on notice for sale of counterfeit goods
President Donald Trump put Amazon, eBay and Alibaba and other online marketplaces on notice Wednesday, signing a memorandum that aims to curb the sale of counterfeit items online. "This is a shot across the bow to those companies. If you don't clean it up, then the government will," Trump trade advisor Peter Navarro told reporters.
CNBC

Facebook to finally explain the decisions of its news feed algorithm
Facebook will finally begin telling its users why posts appear in their news feeds as it seeks to assuage public concerns about the spread of fake news and its influence over billions of people's reading habits. The social network will today introduce a button on each post revealing why users are seeing it, including factors such as whether they have interacted often with the person who made the post or whether it is popular with other users.
The Telegraph

California / National

Funds from ballot initiative help newly released prisoners find a home in Los Angeles
As Latanja Madison's release date from prison inched closer, she felt more terrified than elated. During a decade behind bars at the California Institution for Women in Corona, the 55-year-old Madison underwent multiple orthopedic surgeries and now uses a walker. Her immediate family members passed away during her incarceration, creating grave doubts she would have a support system.

Witness LA

Walters: California Gov. Newsom gets surprising grade just 90 days in

Gavin Newsom coasted into the governorship last year, defeating his Republican rival by more than a 3-2 margin. It seems a little odd, therefore, that three months into his governorship, he enjoys only tepid popular support. A new poll by the Public Policy Institute of California found that just 45 percent of all adults, and the same percentage of likely voters, approve of Newsom's governorship so far.

Mercury News

State warns NASA it must uphold agreement to clean up its part of Santa Susana field lab

For the second time in two months, the California Department of Toxic Substances Control has warned another federal agency to stick to a 2010 agreement to fully clean up its portion of the contaminated Santa Susana Field Laboratory outside Simi Valley. In late January, the state agency, which is overseeing the long-planned, much-delayed cleanup, put the U.S. Department of Energy on notice not to waver from the legally binding agreement.

Ventura County Star

Saudis hacked Jeff Bezos' phone and leaked racy texts, investigator claims

Saudi Arabia nationals hacked the phone of Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos and were the source of private information that was published by The National Enquirer, according to longtime security consultant Gavin de Becker, who works for Bezos. In an op-ed in The Daily Beast, de Becker said that he and other security experts probed how anyone could access Bezos' private phone messages to his girlfriend, Lauren Sanchez, after some of them were published on The National Enquirer and became the subject of an extortion plot.

Fox News

Chinese woman carrying malware allegedly got into Mar-a-Lago

A woman carrying two Chinese passports and a device containing computer malware lied to Secret Service agents and briefly gained admission to President Donald Trump's Mar-a-Lago club over the weekend during his Florida visit, federal prosecutors allege in court documents. Yujing Zhang, 32, approached a Secret Service agent at a checkpoint outside the Palm Beach club early Saturday afternoon and said she was a member who wanted to use the pool, court documents said. She showed the passports as identification.

AP

California's Attorney General says immigration should be decriminalized

Unauthorized immigration should be decriminalized, California Attorney

General Xavier Becerra (D) said in an interview with HuffPost on Friday, becoming one of the few prominent Democrats to challenge a key aspect of the Trump administration's crackdown. "They are not criminals," Becerra said of migrants who cross without authorization.
HuffPost

Guns

LAPD asks to cancel citizens' concealed weapons permits
The Los Angeles Police Department has moved to cancel most of the few remaining concealed weapons permits in civilian hands, according to new filings in a decades-old legal case. Chief Michel Moore said in a sworn declaration he did not believe a group of people who obtained so-called CCWs as the result of a 1994 lawsuit were still entitled to the permits, because it was unlikely the individuals still faced extraordinary physical danger to their lives.
NBC4

NRA and CRPA oppose California's request to immediately halt "large-capacity" magazine ruling
On Tuesday, April 2, NRA and CRPA filed an opposition to California's request seeking an immediate stay of enforcement of Friday's decision in the case of Duncan v. Becerra, which found California's restrictions against so-called "large-capacity" magazines unconstitutional and unenforceable.
NRA-ILA

Public Records

Release of Santa Maria police officer misconduct records on hold, pending open court cases
Citing nearly a dozen open legal challenges statewide to a new police transparency law, the city of Santa Maria won't release records detailing investigations into confirmed instances of police misconduct that occurred prior to Jan. 1 until the lawsuits are resolved. The city response follows a public records request by the Santa Maria Times in January seeking records covered by SB 1421, a landmark state law passed by the California legislature last year that aims to bring more transparency to internal investigations of police misconduct.
Santa Maria Times

California AG slammed on police transparency record
Press and free speech advocates blasted California Attorney General Xavier Becerra on Monday over his approach to government transparency and law enforcement accountability. "I think the Attorney General's office has behaved disturbingly and inappropriately," said David Snyder, the director of the First Amendment Coalition, a California-based nonprofit dedicated to government transparency and press freedom.

Courthouse News Service

Court upholds broad release of police misconduct records in California
A new law granting public access to police misconduct records and investigations of officers' use of force applies to all records that existed when the law took effect this year no matter when they were created, a state appeals court has ruled in a decision with immediate statewide impact. Police unions in numerous localities, including Contra Costa County and five of its cities in the current case, sued to block release of records created before 2019.
San Francisco Chronicle

Prodded by court ruling, Sonoma County Sheriff relents and agrees to release police records
The Sonoma County Sheriff's Office said Wednesday that within a week it will begin releasing police records it had previously withheld, following an appeals court decision last week on the issue and a legal threat to the county Tuesday. California news organizations, including The Press Democrat, had requested the records under a new state law known as Senate Bill 1421.
The Press Democrat

Corrections

State prison officials reviewing request to allow imprisoned father to see Oakland son in hospital
State prison officials are considering a request to allow the imprisoned father of an Oakland boy on life support to visit his son as he clings to life in the hospital, authorities said Monday. Four-year-old Navaun Jackson shot himself in the head last week and has been in critical condition at UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital in Oakland, his family said. Family members pleaded with Gov. Gavin Newsom over the weekend to allow the boy's father, Nathan Jackson, to visit his son in the hospital.
San Francisco Chronicle

Homeless

Legislation would allow West L.A. Armory to operate as shelter year round
Federal legislation introduced Monday would allow the West Los Angeles National Guard Armory to operate year-round as a homeless shelter instead of only during the winter months. The bill is sponsored by Sens. Dianne Feinstein and Kamala Harris, D-Calif., and Rep. Ted Lieu, D-Torrance. In a letter to the Senate and House Armed Services Committees, they requested that the legislation be included in the next National Defense Authorization Act.
My News LA

Despite Measure H, cities and agencies struggle to get money for homeless services; LA County to investigate
Los Angeles County cities and homeless services providers could soon more easily access Measure H funding. The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approved a motion by supervisors Kathryn Barger and Hilda Solis Tuesday directing staff to report back in 45 days with recommendations to streamline the process through which the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority grants Measure H dollars to cities and service providers.
San Gabriel Valley Tribune

Citing 'frustration' on homeless crisis, San Fernando, San Gabriel Valley county leaders call for more collaboration with cities
The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors voted Tuesday to find ways to work more collaboratively with dozens of cities to solve the problem of homelessness. Supervisor Kathryn Barger recommended streamlining processes to grant Measure H dollars to local cities and homelessness agencies.
City News Service

Pensions

Cities struggle to cut retirement health care costs
The cost of providing health care for retired state and local government employees, a benefit rarely found in the private sector, was mostly ignored until around 2007, when a government accounting board said the debt should be calculated. So little attention was paid to the growing retiree health care debt that it's still called "Other Post Employment Benefits" in government reports, a catchall phrase for benefits beyond pensions that could include life, disability, and long-term care insurance if offered.
Calpensions

California beats back challenge of CalSavers retirement plan
California's state-sponsored retirement plan for private workers cleared a major hurdle Friday, with a federal judge tossing a lawsuit brought by an influential anti-tax group that hoped to kill the program before its July launch date. Lawmakers passed the retirement plan, now called CalSavers, in 2016 with the goal of extending benefits to an estimated 7.5 million workers that aren't offered pensions or 401(k) plans by their employers.
Courthouse News Service

Marin Voice: Public pension debate is about values and priorities
The ongoing discussion of public employee pensions is currently focused on litigation before our state's Supreme Court. It may come as a surprise, but I agree with Jody Morales (Marin Voice, March 8) that most observers expected the court's recent decision in the Cal Fire case on air time to be a narrow one. We at Marin Association of Public Employees

(MAPE) did.
Marin Independent Journal

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